

This listing of claims will replace the originally filed claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (canceled)

Claim 11 (new): A method for measuring the amount of liquid in a container and means for making said liquid flow from said container to a point of use.

Claim 12 (new): The method according to Claim 11, wherein a weight, P_i of said liquid in said container is measured at a time t_i ;

wherein said i ranges from 0 to n , this measurement being repeated at time t_{i+1} , then at time t_{i+2} , until time t_n ;

wherein n is an integer greater than about 3;

wherein the weight change $\Delta P_i = P_i - P_{i+1}$ of liquid ranges from times t_i and t_{i+1} ;
and

wherein $\Delta t = t_{i-1} - t_i$, is also measured so as to generate at time t_n a signal, S indicating that the container may be considered empty when ΔP_i is less than a predetermined fraction F of the weight of the container and/or of the liquid initially contained in the latter.

Claim 13 (new): A method for measuring the amount of liquid in a container and means for making said liquid flow from said container to a point of use;

wherein a weight, P_i of said liquid in said container is measured at a time t_i ;

wherein said i ranges from 0 to n , this measurement being repeated at time t_{i+1} , then at time t_{i+2} , until time t_n ;

wherein n is an integer greater than about 3;

wherein the weight change $\Delta P_i = P_i - P_{i+1}$ of liquid ranges from times t_i and t_{i+1} ;
and

wherein $\Delta t = t_{i-1} - t_i$, is also measured so as to generate at time t_n a signal, S indicating that the container may be considered empty when ΔP_i is less than a predetermined fraction F of the weight of the container and/or of the liquid initially contained in the latter.

Claim 14 (new): The method according to Claim 12, wherein said ΔP_i is triggered only when the value of the direct or indirect measurement of the weight of the container and/or of the liquid is less than or equal to a predetermined fraction F of the initial weight of the container and/or of the liquid contained in the container.

Claim 15 (new): The method according to Claim 14, wherein said predetermined fraction F is less than or optionally equal to about 10% of the initial weight of the container and/or of the liquid initially contained in the container.

Claim 16 (new): The method according to Claim 12, wherein said time interval $\Delta t_i = t_{i+1} - t_i$ ranges from two successive measurements of the weight of the container and/or of the liquid is predetermined.

Claim 17 (new): The method according to Claim 16, wherein said predetermined time interval is about ten seconds.

Claim 18 (new): The method according to Claim 11, wherein the flow of the liquid is at least partly caused by the pressure exerted by a pressurized gas lying above the surface of the liquid in the container; and wherein said gas is compatible with the liquid.

Claim 19 (new): The method according to Claim 18, wherein said gas is essentially inert with respect to the liquid to be propelled.

Claim 20 (new): The method according to Claim 18, wherein said liquid is sent to a second container before being sent to its point of use.

Claim 21 (new): The method according to Claim 18, wherein said gas is at least one component selected from the group consisting of:

- a) helium;
- b) neon;
- c) xenon;
- d) nitrogen;

- e) argon;
- f) krypton; and
- g) carbon dioxide.

Claim 22 (new): The method according to Claim 18, wherein said gas has a pressure from about 10^5 to about 10^6 pascals, or about 1 to about 10 bars.

Claim 23 (new): An apparatus for delivering a liquid chemical product which comprises:

- a) a container;
- b) means for connecting this container to a point of use;
- c) means for measuring the amount of liquid in said container, which includes clock means;
- d) storage means;
- e) means for calculating the difference in the amount of liquid $\Delta P_i = P_i - P_{i+1}$ in the container between times t_i and t_{i+1} ;
- f) means for comparing ΔP_i with a predetermined value F ; and
- g) means for generating a first signal S_1 if $\Delta P_i > F$ or a second signal S_2 if $\Delta P_i \leq F$;

wherein said container contains the chemical liquid to be delivered;

wherein said means for connecting this container to a point of use is where the liquid product has to be delivered;

wherein said clock means generate, at successive times t_i , t_{i+1} etc., a signal for triggering a measurement P_i , P_{i+1} , etc. of the amount of said chemical liquid at said times t_i , t_{i+1} etc; and

wherein said storage means record the measurements P_i , P_{i+1} , etc. of the amount of said liquid at times t_i , t_{i+1} , etc. respectively.